

SENATE RESOLUTION 14

By Southerland

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Centerview Elementary School upon earning national Title I recognition.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to recognize those outstanding educational institutions that provide the highest quality education for Tennessee's students; and

WHEREAS, one such estimable school is Centerview Elementary School, which has recently distinguished itself as one of the finest schools in Tennessee and in the Nation; and

WHEREAS, the PreK-8 elementary school in Cocke County's Third District recently received notification of its selection as one of two Tennessee schools to receive recognition as one of America's top 100 Title I Schools; and

WHEREAS, Centerview Elementary School was nominated for the honor after the school exceeded its adequate yearly progress for two or more consecutive years; and

WHEREAS, after Centerview received the nomination, personnel from Cocke County Schools Central Office determined the school's eligibility by using screening criteria, including test scores, adequate yearly progress, poverty data, and recognition history; and

WHEREAS, the school was then visited in October by the Office of Elementary and Secondary Education Office staff, who determined the school's finalist status and forwarded the findings to the State Superintendent of Schools for approval; and

WHEREAS, the National Title I Distinguished Schools program is a project of the National Association of State Title I Directors and provides an opportunity for Title I schools from all fifty states to be publicly recognized for their positive educational achievements; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of Title I Distinguished Schools Recognition Program is to identify schools that are ensuring that all children have access to effective instructional

strategies and challenging academic content and that are demonstrating success in ensuring that all children, particularly deprived children, make significant progress toward learning that content; and

WHEREAS, Centerview Elementary School earned its nomination following the release of the Tennessee Department of Education's Report Card for the 2007-2008 school year this past summer; and

WHEREAS, according to the Report Card, 305 Centerview students in grades K-8 were tested last spring in math, reading/language arts, social studies, and science; of those children tested, 260 are considered "economically disadvantaged" according to the Report Card; and

WHEREAS, the children's test scores earned their school a status of "Good Standing" in the No Child Left Behind summary; and

WHEREAS, in their math scores, Centerview students sought to equal or better the state goal of eighty-six percent scoring proficient or advanced; their ninety percent score put them well over the top in this area; and

WHEREAS, the state's goal in reading/language arts was eighty-nine percent; once again, Centerview's students surpassed the state goal with a ninety percent ranking; and

WHEREAS, Centerview students also surpassed the state's goal of ninety-three percent in attendance; school records show that for the 2007-2008 school year, children at Centerview Elementary attended school more than ninety-five percent of the time, an increase of nearly a full percent over their two previous years; and

WHEREAS, the school's distinction as one of America's top 100 Title I schools recognizes that Centerview Elementary School, with Principal Pam Messer at the helm, has been among the most effective of Tennessee's more than 1,300 elementary and middle schools; and

WHEREAS, the students at Centerview Elementary benefit from the time and energies put forth by the teachers who guide them through the hallowed hall of education, bestowing upon them the skills and lessons necessary for the students to succeed in life; and

WHEREAS, the talented and dedicated teachers of Centerview Elementary School are: Lesa Holt, Shalain Price, Tammy Shepard, Tiffany Marshall, Cassandra Vinson, Carol Byrum,

Debbie Holt, Alison Hayes, Kim Moody, Victoria Fox, Kimberly Shults, Linda Hayes, Angela Stewart, Michel Hannon, Catherine Ball, Sabrina Coffey, Belinda Holt, Regina Lindsey, Kristy Overholt, Ginger Atkins, Melanie Cline, Deborah Renner, Ned Ramsey, Elizabeth Stewart, Sherry Kerr, Donnie Padgett, Nancy Haun, Dustin Blazer, Jimmy Fox, Sara Gray, and Andrea Cumbow; and

WHEREAS, other administrators who contribute to the success of Centerview Elementary School include Cocke County Schools Title I Director Eddie Surber, Cocke County Director of Schools Manny Moore, and Cocke County Schools Supervisor of Instruction Kathy Holt; and

WHEREAS, Centerview Elementary School epitomizes the ideal educational facility, and its administrators, teachers, and staff are wholly committed to the highest ideals of public service and quality education for all, and they should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby honor and congratulate Centerview Elementary School upon its receiving national recognition as one of America's top 100 Title I Schools, commend the administrators, teachers, and staff for their exceptional service to the children of Tennessee, salute their professional expertise and personal excellence, and wish them all the best in their future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.